## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-17 are pending.

Claims 1-5, 7-12 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.§ 102(b) for allegedly being anticipated by Colwell et al.

Claims 1 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for allegedly being anticipated by Kuroda et al.

It is noted with appreciation that claim 13 recites allowable subject matter.

Independent claim 1 has been amended in response to the Section 102 rejections.

Independent claim 17 has been appended to recite claim 13 in independent form, based on claim 1 a previously presented. Claim 17 is believed to be allowable.

Claim 1 recites an active region having a central portion and a first peripheral portion disposed about a periphery of the central portion. Active cells are fabricated in accordance with a first cell design in a first region of the central portion. Active cells are fabricated in accordance with a second cell design in second region of the first peripheral portion, where a combined current density of the second active cells is greater than a combined current density of the first active cells.

Colwell et al. do not show or suggest active cells fabricated in accordance with a first cell design in a central portion of an active region and active cells fabricated in accordance with a second cell design in a first peripheral portion, where the combined current density of the second active cells is greater than the combined current density of the first active cells. Colwell et al. disclose logic devices in a gate array. They do not describe or even suggest having first logic devices in a central portion and second logic in peripheral portion where the second logic devices have a higher current density than the first logic devices.

Similarly, Kuroda et al. do not show or suggest active cells fabricated in accordance with a first cell design in a central portion of an active region and active cells fabricated in accordance with a second cell design in a first peripheral portion, where the combined current density of the second active cells is greater than the combined current density of the first active cells.

## CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

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